

Remarks

Claims 1-18, 20-24 and 35-38 are now pending in this application. Claims 1-24, 35, and 36 are rejected. Claim 23 has been amended. Claims 19 and 25-34 have been canceled without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer. Claims 37-38 have been newly added. No new matter has been added. No additional fee is due for the newly added claims.

Applicants acknowledge that the restriction requirement has been made final and Applicants have cancelled Claims 25-26, 28-31, and 33-34 which were withdrawn from prosecution as a result of the restriction requirement.

The objection to the drawings is respectfully traversed. Applicants have amended Figure 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1-24 and 35-36 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, is respectfully traversed. The Office Action indicates on page 4, “The claims recite “storing a plurality of operating programs and data including a first and second operating program and data in the external device coupled to the memory host module”, however, this external device is not taught in the specification.” Applicants respectfully submit that the specification, including the drawings, would enable one skilled in the art to make and/or use the invention as described in Claims 1 and 10. Specifically, the specification describes, for example, on page 4, lines 1-10, “In yet another embodiment, the application programs and data are not stored within memory host module 12. Instead, memory host module 12 has an external interface 28 to an external system (not shown). Application programs and data are routed from external system (not shown), to external interface 28, through memory host module 12 to module interface 24, over backplane 32, to module interface 34 and memory 40 of option module 14. A different interface to an external system, for example, would allow updating via the Internet 50, to a modem 52 connected to backplane 32 so that an entity could nearly instantaneously update all such PLC systems by making a single update at a central location such as main office 54.” The specification also describes, for example, on page 4, lines 22-24, “Alternatively, CPU 20 of memory host 12 can pass the application program and data through to an external device (not shown) via external interface 28 or modem 52.” Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claims 1 and 10 under Section 112, first paragraph, be withdrawn.

Claims 2-9 and 35 depend on independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2-9 and 35 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicants respectfully requests that the rejection of Claims 2-9 and 35 under Section 112, first paragraph, be withdrawn.

Claims 11-18, 20-24 and 36 depend, directly or indirectly, on independent Claim 10. When the recitations of Claims 11-18, 20-24 and 36 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 10, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claims 11-18, 20-24 and 36 under Section 112, first paragraph, be withdrawn.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection to Claims 1-24 and 35-36 under Section 112, first paragraph, be withdrawn.

Newly added Claim 37 depends from independent Claim 1, which is submitted to be in condition for allowance and patentable over the cited art in the amendment mailed on March 1, 2004. For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 37 is also patentable over the cited art.

Newly added Claim 38 depends from independent Claim 10, which is submitted to be in condition for allowance and patentable over the cited art in the amendment mailed on March 1, 2004. For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 38 is also patentable over the cited art.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



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TITLE: MULTIPLE PROGRAM STORAGE WITHIN A PROGRAMMABLE LOGIC CONTROLLER SYSTEM

INVENTOR: James E. Grimes et al.

S/N: 09/465,147 DOCKET: 30-GF-1083

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ANNOTATED MARKED-UP DRAWING

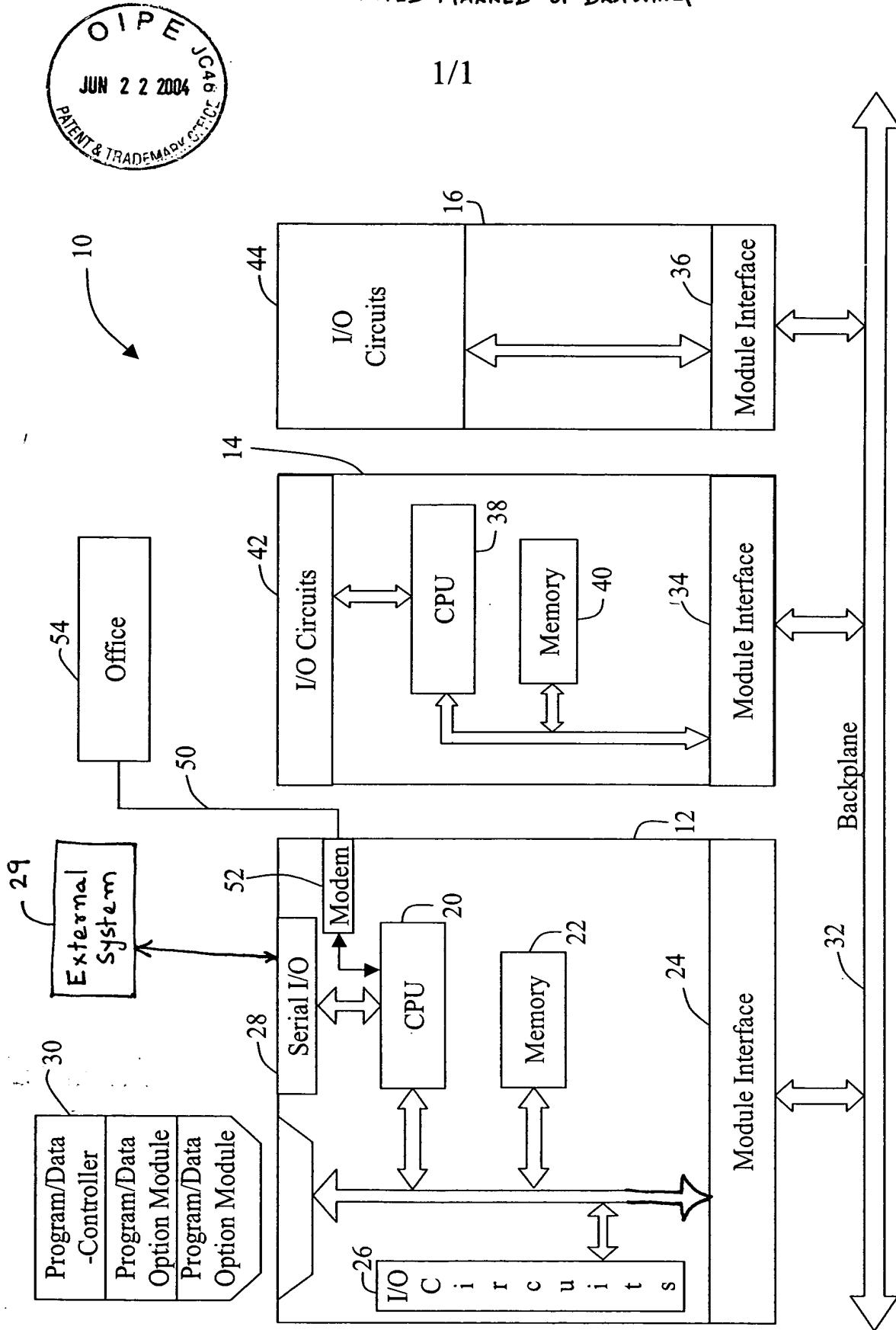


FIG. 1